

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NEW DE 05474 160111Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /075 W  
-----161045Z 101404 /21

R 151319Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2759  
INFO AMCONSUL CALCUTTA  
AMCONSUL BOMBAY  
AMCONSUL MADRAS  
AMEMBASSY DACCA  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 5474

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, IN, UR  
SUBJECT: GOI FOREIGN MINISTER ON INDO-SOVIET RELATIONS

1. THE THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF INDO-SOVIET DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BROUGHT FORTH AN EXCHANGE OF GREETINGS BETWEEN SOVIET AND INDIAN OFFICIALS. IN A MESSAGE TO THE INDO-SOVIET CULTURAL SOCIETY, APRIL 13, GOI FOREIGN MINISTER A.B. VAJPAYEE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT MUTUAL COOPERATION AND UNDERSTANDING WOULD CONTINUE TO FLOURISH. HE SAID THAT THE IDEALS OF SOCIAL JUSTICE PROCLAIMED BY THE OCTOBER REVOLUTION HAD "EVOKED THE INTEREST OF THE INDIAN PEOPLE FOLLOWING THEIR OWN PATH TO PROGRESS AND FREEDOM" (QUOTE IS LANGUAGE OF SAMACHAR WIRE SERVICE). THE INDIAN PRESS REPORTED THAT PODGORNYY, KOSYGIN, AND GROMYKO SENT MESSAGES TO THEIR INDIAN COUNTERPARTS ON THE OCCASION OF THE ANNIVERSARY. INDIAN AMBASSADOR GUJRAL'S MOSCOW SPEECH OF APRIL 14 ASSURING A SOVIET AUDIENCE THAT INDO-SOVIET COOPERATION WOULD  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NEW DE 05474 160111Z

CONTINUE WAS ALSO REPORTED.

2. IN AN INTERVIEW WITH SOVIET TELEVISION TO MARK THE THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY (REPORTED IN THE DELHI PRESS APRIL 15) VAJPAYEE WELCOMED THE VISIT OF THE SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER, EXPECTED HERE ON APRIL 25, SAYING: "IT IS OUR HOPE THAT TALKS WITH HIM WILL BE VERY FRUITFUL".

VAJPAYEE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE SYSTEMS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES WERE DIFFERENT BUT SAID THAT "THE GREAT PRINCIPLE OF CO-EXISTENCE" WAS THE BASIS OF THEIR FRIENDSHIP". OUR RELATIONS ARE BASED ON EQUALITY, FRIENDLY FEELINGS AND COOPERATION. THE SOVIET UNION AND INDIA HAVE WORKED TOGETHER IN INTERNATIONAL FORUMS. BOTH COUNTRIES HAVE RAISED THEIR VOICE AGAINST COLONIALISM, IMPERIALISM AND RACISM. THE SOVIET UNION AND INDIA WANT THAT THESE EVILS, THESE DISTORTIONS, WHICH ARE A BLOT ON THE FACE OF HUMANITY, SHOULD DISAPPEAR AND THAT PEOPLES EVERYWHERE SHOULD BE FREE AND RACISM ROOTED OUT".

VAJPAYEE REPEATED WHAT HAD BEEN SAID EARLIER, THAT FOREIGN POLICY WAS NOT AN ELECTION ISSUE AND STATED THAT HIS GOVT WOULD DECIDE QUESTIONS OF FOREIGN POLICY ON THEIR "MERITS BY STAYING AWAY FROM THE POWER BLOCS".

3. COMMENT: FROM A READING OF THE INDIAN PRESS ONE COULD CONCLUDE THAT THE FORTHCOMING GROMYKO VISIT WILL BE A ROUTINE REAFFIRMATION OF INDO-SOVIET TIES. WHAT IS APPARENT AT THIS POINT IS THAT THE INDIANS ARE TAKING PUBLIC STEPS TO REASSURE THE SOVIETS. THE REAL PROBLEMS OF THE RELATIONSHIP ARE BEING CONVENIENTLY OVERLOOKED. RHETORIC, HOWEVER, IS ONE THING. THE OUTCOME OF THE GROMYKO MEETING LATER THIS MONTH SHOULD AFFORD US A MORE REALISTIC PERSPECTIVE OF INDO-SOVIET TIES IN THE FIRST WEEKS OF THE JANATA GOVT ERA.

SCHNEIDER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHMENT, COMMEMORATIVE CELEBRATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 15-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977NEWDE05474  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770133-0032  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** NEW DELHI  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770453/aaaabtln.tel  
**Line Count:** 87  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 5be798a4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2794385  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GOI FOREIGN MINISTER ON INDO-SOVIET RELATIONS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PDIP, IN, UR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/5be798a4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009